

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS18293C1

Certain children suffer from severe, life-threatening food allergies. For children with this very rare condition, elemental (amino-acid based) formulas allow these children to absorb nutrition, heal and grow without requiring prolonged intravenous feeding. These severe food allergies usually are not present at birth and, when treated correctly, usually resolve over time. Some health plans refuse to cover the life-saving nutritional formula which may cost more than many families can afford (up to \$2400/month). This bill requires that health plans not exclude coverage for these children, and cover the cost of this life-saving treatment as they do for other conditions (congenital and metabolic conditions). Proof that the formula was medically necessary would still be required.

FISCAL NOTE

There is no fiscal impact to the General Fund.

Contact:

Name: Senator Steve Bair

Office:

Phone: (208) 332-1000